Who does these rules apply to?
These rules apply to individuals taking big game animals. Hunting and trapping activities in Idaho generally require a license/permit from the Department.

What is the purpose of these rules?
These rules govern the taking of big game animals so that Idaho continues to have big game populations to support public use and enjoyment in the future. These rules promote public safety and proper techniques, manage social aspects of taking big game to provide a range of opportunities, balance different public interests and preferences, and manage resident/non-resident and outfitted/non-outfitted participation. These rules also address areas closed to hunting, game management unit/zone boundary descriptions, and depredation hunt tags.

What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?
This rule implements the following statutes passed by the Idaho Legislature:

Fish and Game -
Fish and Game Commission:
• Section 36-104, Idaho Code – General Powers and Duties of Commission
License to Hunt, Fish and Trap:
• Section 36-405, Idaho Code – Application for License – Duplicate License – Unlawful Purchase, Possession, and Use of License
• Section 36-408, Idaho Code – Commission’s Authority – Tags – Permits – Nonresidents Limited – Outfitters Set-aside
Protection of Animals and Birds:
• Section 36-1101, Idaho Code – Taking of Wildlife Unlawful Except by Statute or Commission Rule or Proclamation – Methods Prohibited – Exceptions

Who do I contact for more information on this rule?
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
600 S. Walnut Street
Boise, ID 83712

P.O. Box 25
Boise, ID 83707
Phone: (208) 334-3771
Fax: (208) 334-4885
Email: Rules@idfg.idaho.gov
Webpage: http://idfg.idaho.gov
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13.01.08 – RULES GOVERNING TAKING OF BIG GAME ANIMALS

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.
Sections 36-104(b), 36-201, 36-405, 36-408, 36-409, and 36-1101, Idaho Code, authorize the Commission to adopt rules concerning taking of big game animals.

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.
The title of this chapter for citation is IDAPA 13.01.08, “Rules Governing Taking of Big Game Animals.” These rules govern the taking of big game animals.

002. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.
01. Established Roadway. Any road established, built, maintained, approved or designated by any governmental entity or private landowner for travel by full-sized automobiles. An established roadway shows evidence of repeated use by full-sized automobiles, and may include a traveled way of natural earth with depressed wheel tracks and little or no vegetation in the wheel tracks.

02. Front Quarters, Hind Quarter, Loins, and Tenderloins. As applied in Section 36-1202, Idaho Code, for edible portions of big game animals, front quarters of big game animals include the meat surrounding the ball joint as far down as the knees, hindquarters include the meat surrounding the ball joint as far down as the hock, and the loins and tenderloins are the meat along the backbone.

03. Full-sized Automobile. Any motorized vehicle with a gross weight in excess of one thousand five hundred (1,500) pounds.


05. Motorized Vehicle. As defined in Section 36-202, Idaho Code.

011. -- 199. (RESERVED)

200. BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS.
No person may take more than one (1) deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, black bear, or gray wolf during a calendar year except:

01. Depredation Hunts. One (1) additional deer, elk, pronghorn, black bear, or gray wolf may be taken by persons holding a depredation hunt tag for that hunt, except where the depredation hunt precedes or follows a controlled hunt in the area, persons who drew that controlled hunt may be selected to participate in the depredation hunt in accordance with Section 800. Such persons must follow the weapon restrictions that apply to the controlled hunt they drew, and participation in the depredation hunt does not allow them to take a second animal.

02. Extra Tag Hunts. In extra tag hunts, one (1) additional deer, elk or pronghorn may be taken by persons holding tags for those hunts.

03. Limits on Take -- Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Mountain Lion, Black Bear, Gray Wolf. In no event may any person take more deer, elk, pronghorn, mountain lion, black bear, or gray wolf in a calendar year than the number of tags the person legally possesses for each species.

201. -- 249. (RESERVED)

250. TAGS AND PERMITS.
No person may take big game animals without having in possession the appropriate license, tags, and permits.

01. Use of Controlled Hunt Tags.

a. Controlled hunt tags, including controlled depredation hunt tags and controlled hunt extra tags, issued for big game animals may be used only for take of the animal in the hunt area specified by Commission proclamation or Department order for the controlled hunt for which the tag is issued.
02. **Use of General Season Tags.** General season tags, including extra general season tags, issued for big game animals may be used during any open general season, including any general special weapon season, ONLY as follows: (7-1-21)

a. Only for take of the animal specified on the tag, with a Regular Deer tag being valid for mule deer or white-tailed deer; and (7-1-21)

b. Only in the hunt area for which the tags are issued, as designated by Commission proclamation. (7-1-21)

c. And for elk, Elk A Tags may be used only during a general season, including any general special weapon season, designated by Commission proclamation as an Elk A season, and Elk B Tags may be used only during any general season, including any general special weapon season designated by Commission proclamation as an Elk B season. (7-1-21)

03. **Statewide Hunt Area.** If a general season tag, including any extra general season tag, for a big game animal does not specify a hunt area, the tag may be used statewide, unless Commission proclamation or Department order specifies an area where such tag use is prohibited or otherwise limited in its use. (7-1-21)

04. **Additional Use of Nonresident Deer and Elk Tags.** A hunter may use an unfilled nonresident elk or deer tag, to take instead a black bear, mountain lion, or gray wolf, during the open season corresponding to the elk or deer tag hunt area or unit when the season for the animal taken is also open. (7-1-21)

251. **ARCHERY AND MUZZLELOADER PERMITS.**
No person may hunt in a season designated by Commission proclamation as Archery Only or Muzzleloader Only without the appropriate archery or muzzleloader permit for the relevant season validated on their license. (7-1-21)

252. **DELAY IN ELIGIBILITY FOR BUYING LIMITED GENERAL HUNT TAG.**
When the Commission limits the number of tags available for a general big game hunt, the Commission may establish a period of no more than five (5) days at the beginning of a tag sale period, during which any applicant for a controlled hunt in the same calendar year for the same species is not eligible to buy a tag for that limited hunt. (7-1-21)

253. -- 254. **(RESERVED)**

255. **NONRESIDENT TAG RESTRICTIONS.**

01. **Nonresident Tag Limitations.** (7-1-21)

a. In controlled hunts with ten (10) or fewer tags, not more than one (1) nonresident tag will be issued. In controlled hunts, EXCEPT unlimited controlled hunts, with more than ten (10) tags, not more than ten percent (10%) of the tags will be issued to nonresidents. This rule will apply to each uniquely numbered controlled hunt and to the controlled hunts for each species. Outfitter allocated hunts are exempt from the limitation of this Subsection. (7-1-21)

b. In unlimited controlled hunts, the Commission may limit the number of tags available for nonresident hunters to no less than ten percent (10%) of the average number of tags drawn annually during the previous five (5) year period. (7-1-21)

c. For each species, the total number of outfitter allocated controlled hunt tags will be subtracted from the result of ten percent (10%) of the sum of all controlled hunt tags; including outfitter allocated controlled hunts, but excluding all unlimited controlled hunts. In addition to the limitations of Subsection 255.01.a., the resulting net number will be the maximum number of controlled hunt tags that may be issued to nonresidents for all controlled hunts except outfitter allocated and unlimited controlled hunts. (7-1-21)

d. In general hunts, the Commission may limit by proclamation the number of tags available for nonresident hunters in a zone or big game hunting unit to no less than ten percent (10%) of the average hunter
participation estimated for that zone or unit during the previous five (5) year period. If the Commission adopts tag limits in a zone or big game hunt unit for non-residents under this Subsection 01.d., without limiting residents, the provisions of IDAPA 13.01.04.505.02, “Rules Governing Licensing,” applicable to controlled hunts with limited nonresident tags and unlimited resident tags will apply to deer and elk tag allocation instead of the provisions of IDAPA 13.01.04.505.01.

(7-1-21)T

e. Governor’s Wildlife Partnership Tags for deer, elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose will be taken from the nonresident tag quota and availability is subject to Nonresident Tag Limitations.

(7-1-21)T

256. (RESERVED)

257. ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTROLLED HUNT APPLICATION.
A person must possess an Idaho hunting license valid for taking game animals to apply for any controlled hunt for big game species.

(7-1-21)T

01. Bighorn Sheep.

(7-1-21)T

a. Any person whose name was drawn on a controlled hunt for any bighorn sheep is not eligible to apply for any bighorn tag for two (2) years. Except that a person may apply for a bighorn tag in the second application period or a leftover bighorn tag the following year.

(7-1-21)T

b. Any person who has killed a California bighorn ram is not eligible to apply for a California bighorn ram controlled hunt tag; and any person who has killed a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram is not eligible to apply for a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram controlled hunt tag, except any person who has killed a California bighorn ram south of Interstate Highway 84 since 1974 and is otherwise eligible, may apply for a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram tag for any hunt north of Interstate Highway 84; and any person who has killed a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram north of Interstate Highway 84 since 1974 and is otherwise eligible, may apply for a California bighorn ram tag for any hunt south of Interstate Highway 84.

(7-1-21)T

c. Any person who kills a bighorn ewe is not eligible to apply for another bighorn ewe controlled hunt tag for five (5) years. The harvest of a bighorn ewe does not make the person ineligible to apply for a tag to take a California bighorn ram or a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram. Any person who applies for a bighorn ewe is not eligible to apply for any bighorn ram the same year.

(7-1-21)T

02. Mountain Goat.

(7-1-21)T

a. Any person whose name was drawn on a controlled hunt for mountain goat is not eligible to apply for a mountain goat tag for two (2) years. Except that a person may apply for a mountain goat tag in the second application period or a leftover mountain goat tag the following year.

(7-1-21)T

b. Any person who has killed a mountain goat since 1977 is not eligible to apply for a mountain goat tag.

(7-1-21)T

03. Moose.

(7-1-21)T

a. Any person whose name was drawn on a controlled hunt for moose is not eligible to apply for a moose permit for two (2) years. Except that a person may apply for a moose tag in the second application period or a leftover moose tag the following year.

(7-1-21)T

b. Any person who has killed an antlered moose in Idaho is not eligible to apply for a moose tag for antlered moose, and any person who has killed an antlerless moose in Idaho is not eligible to apply for a tag for antlerless moose except that any person may apply for tags remaining unsold after the controlled hunt draw.

(7-1-21)T

04. Antlered-Only Deer, Antlered-Only Elk, and Pronghorn. Any person whose name was drawn on a controlled hunt for antlered-only deer, antlered-only elk, or any pronghorn (including either sex, and doe and
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258. CONTROLLED HUNT APPLICATIONS

01. Applications. Individual applications or group applications for controlled hunts may be submitted electronically through the automated licensing system at any vendor location, including Department offices, via the Internet or telephone, not later than the annual dates shown below. Any individual application or group application which is unreadable, has incomplete or incorrect hunt or license numbers, or lacks information or fees will be declared void and will not be entered in the drawing. All applications will be considered final; except, applicants who would like to change their submitted controlled hunt application may request the original application be canceled to resubmit a new controlled hunt application during the applicable application period. The new application is subject to the appropriate application fees.


b. Moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat -- Application period for first drawing - April 1 - 30.
c. Deer, elk, pronghorn, fall black bear, fall grizzly bear -- Application period for first drawing -- May 1-June 5. (7-1-21)

d. Moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat -- Application period for second drawing, if applicable - June 15-25. (7-1-21)

e. Deer, elk, pronghorn, fall black bear, fall grizzly bear -- Application period for second drawing -- August 5-15. (7-1-21)

02. Applicant Requirements. Applicants must comply with the following requirements: (7-1-21)

a. Only one (1) application, per person or group, will be accepted for the same species, except a person or group may submit one additional application for a controlled hunt extra tag for the same species. Additional applications for the same person or group for the same species will result in all applicants being declared ineligible. (7-1-21)

b. Only one (1) controlled hunt extra tag will be issued for each person on any application submitted. (7-1-21)

c. Several applications may be submitted so long as each application is for a single species, a single applicant or group, and both hunts on an application must be controlled hunt tag hunts or controlled hunt extra tag hunts. (7-1-21)

d. Fees must be submitted with each application. A single payment may be submitted to cover fees for all applications. If a check or money order is insufficient to cover the fees, all applications will be voided and returned. The application fee is set by Section 36-416, Idaho Code, per person per controlled hunt applied for. The tag fees are not to be submitted for deer, elk, pronghorn, black bear, or gray wolf. Persons applying for moose, bighorn sheep, grizzly bear, or mountain goat controlled hunts must submit the tag fee and application fee with their application. Applicants successful in drawing for a moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will receive a tag in the mail. (7-1-21)

03. Group Application. (7-1-21)

a. A “group application” for deer, elk, and pronghorn is defined as two, three, or four (2, 3, or 4) persons applying for the same controlled hunt on the same application. All applicants must comply with all rules and complete applications properly. All applicants must abide by the same first and second hunt choices. (7-1-21)

b. A “group application” for moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, black bear, and gray wolf, is defined as two (2) persons applying for the same controlled hunt on the same application. Both applicants must comply with all rules and complete applications properly. Both applicants must abide by the same first and second hunt choices. (7-1-21)

c. If a group application exceeds the number of tags available in a hunt, that group application will not be selected for that hunt. (7-1-21)

04. Unlimited Controlled Hunts. Unlimited controlled hunts identified by proclamation as “first-choice only” may be applied for only as the applicant’s first choice controlled hunt. (7-1-21)

05. Landowner Permission Controlled Hunts. Landowner permission hunt tags will be sold first-come, first-served basis at the Department’s Headquarters or regional offices beginning the first business day on or after July 15. (7-1-21)

06. Sale of Remaining Tags. Any controlled hunt tags, except unlimited controlled hunts that remain unsold after the controlled hunt drawings may be sold by any license vendor, through the Internet, or over the telephone on a first-come, first-served basis on the dates below unless such day is a Sunday or legal holiday, in which case the permits will go on sale the next legal business day. A controlled hunt application and tag will be issued to successful controlled hunt purchasers. The ten percent (10%) nonresident limitation will not apply. Controlled hunt tags are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Department’s Headquarters or regional offices beginning the first business day on or after July 15. (7-1-21)
applicants with a tag already in possession must return their tag to a Department office to be exchanged for the appropriate controlled hunt tag, except where the Commission has authorized by proclamation possession of the additional tag. (7-1-21)T

a. Spring Bear - April 1. (7-1-21)T
b. Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat - July 10. (7-1-21)T
c. Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, and Fall Bear - August 25. (7-1-21)T

07. Controlled Hunt Drawing. Single or group applications which are not drawn for the first choice hunt will automatically be entered into a second choice drawing, provided the second choice hunt applied for has not been filled. (7-1-21)T

08. Second Drawing Exclusion. The Director may designate certain leftover controlled hunt tags to become immediately available on a first-come, first-served over-the-counter basis due to the dates of the hunt. (7-1-21)T

259. Deadline for Claiming Tags and Unclaimed Tags. Successful applicants for the first deer, elk, black bear, gray wolf, or pronghorn controlled hunt drawing must purchase and pick up their controlled hunt tag no later than August 1. All controlled hunt tags not purchased and picked up will be entered into a second controlled hunt drawing. Any controlled hunt tags, except unlimited controlled hunt tags, left over or unclaimed after the second controlled hunt drawing will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. (7-1-21)T

260. Use of Controlled Hunt Tags.

01. Use of Controlled Hunt Tags. No person may hunt in any controlled hunt without having a valid controlled hunt tag in possession. (7-1-21)T

a. A controlled hunt area with an “X” suffix is an extra tag hunt. (7-1-21)T
b. In the event a tag is issued based on erroneous information, the tag will be invalidated by the Department and may NOT be used. The Department will notify the person of the invalidation of the tag. The person will remain on the drawn list, and if there is a waiting period in a succeeding year, the person will be required to wait the specified time period. (7-1-21)T

02. Deer. Any person who draws a controlled hunt tag for deer is not eligible to hunt in any other deer hunt--archery, muzzleloader, or general; except:

a. The person may choose not to purchase the controlled hunt tag by the date set by Section 259 of these rules for the first deer drawing, allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)T

b. If the person draws an unlimited controlled hunt, the person may relinquish the controlled hunt prior to purchasing, allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)T

c. The holder of a deer controlled hunt tag may purchase a nonresident general season tag as a second tag. (7-1-21)T
d. Any person who draws a controlled hunt extra tag for deer may hunt in any other deer hunt--archery, muzzleloader, general or controlled hunt. (7-1-21)T

03. Elk. Any person who draws a controlled hunt tag for elk is not eligible to hunt in any other elk hunt--archery, muzzleloader, or general; except:
a. The person may choose not to purchase the controlled hunt tag by the date set by Commission rule for the first elk drawing, allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)

b. If the person draws an unlimited controlled hunt, the hunter may relinquish the controlled hunt prior to purchasing, allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)

c. The holder of an elk controlled hunt tag may purchase a nonresident general season tag as a second tag. (7-1-21)

d. Any person who draws a controlled hunt extra tag for elk may hunt in any other elk hunt-archery, muzzleloader, general or controlled hunt. (7-1-21)

04. Pronghorn. Any person who draws a pronghorn controlled hunt tag is not eligible to hunt in any other pronghorn hunt; except:

a. The person may choose not to purchase the controlled hunt tag by the date set by Commission rule for the first pronghorn drawing allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)

b. If the person draws an unlimited controlled hunt, the person may relinquish the controlled hunt prior to purchasing, allowing the person to participate in a general season hunt or the second application period or the leftover controlled hunt tag sale. (7-1-21)

c. The holder of a pronghorn controlled hunt tag may purchase a controlled hunt extra tag for pronghorn. (7-1-21)

d. Any person who draws a pronghorn controlled hunt extra tag may apply for a controlled hunt tag for pronghorn. (7-1-21)

05. Black Bear.

a. Any person who draws a spring controlled hunt tag for black bear may choose to purchase the controlled hunt bear tag or return an unused general season bear tag in exchange for the controlled hunt bear tag. (7-1-21)

b. Any person who draws a fall controlled hunt tag for black bear may choose to purchase the controlled hunt bear tag or return an unused general season bear tag in exchange for the controlled hunt bear tag. (7-1-21)

261. SPECIAL CONTROLLED HUNTS.

01. Special Controlled Hunt Program. The Special Controlled Hunt Program is a program to partially fund a sportsman access program adopted by the Commission. This program will offer forty (40) tags valid for the current year hunting seasons; including, twelve (12) tags each for elk, deer, and pronghorn, and four (4) tags for moose. (7-1-21)

a. The rules for controlled hunts set forth in Section 260, of these rules, do not apply to the Special Controlled Hunt Program. (7-1-21)

b. The Special Controlled Hunt application will be marketed by the Department. The Department will issue these tags to eligible persons selected by an impartial random draw process. The successful applicants will receive the tag necessary to hunt the appropriate species. (7-1-21)

02. Moneys. The Department will deposit all moneys received from the sale of Special Controlled Hunt Applications in accordance with state law. The Department will specifically use funds for the sportsman access
03. **General Rules.**

   a. Any individual, resident or nonresident, may purchase and submit applications without limit. (7-1-21)

   b. Special controlled hunt applications may be entered in the name of individuals other than the purchaser. (7-1-21)

   c. Each successful applicant must have or be eligible to obtain a valid Idaho hunting license. (7-1-21)

   d. Each tag will be issued to the individual named on the drawn application that meets license eligibility requirements and cannot be transferred. (7-1-21)

   e. An individual may be drawn for only one (1) special controlled hunt tag for each species. (7-1-21)

   f. Each special controlled hunt tag is valid for the designated species and allows the person to hunt in any open hunt, general or controlled, for the designated species in the applicable year’s season. (7-1-21)

   g. The special controlled hunt tag will be in addition to any other tag the person is eligible to obtain. (7-1-21)

   h. Any applicant, including those who harvest an animal on a special controlled hunt tag, will be eligible to apply for any controlled hunt for the same species in the same year or subsequent years. (7-1-21)

   i. In the event a license, tag, or permit is issued based on erroneous information, all documents issued based on the erroneous information will be invalidated by the Department and may not be used. The Department will notify the individual at his last known place of residence of the invalidation of the license, tag or permit. (7-1-21)

04. **Application Fees.** Applications may be sold for individual species (Super Hunt) or grouped for combined species (Super Hunt Combo). The application fees will be set by Commission Order under Section 36-415, Idaho Code, or will be the same as the controlled hunt fee set in Section 36-416, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)

05. **Drawing Dates.** There will be two (2) drawings. All drawings will be held at the Department’s offices in Boise, Idaho. The first drawing winners will be notified by June 10, and the second drawing winners will be notified by August 15 each year. The Commission may order a different drawing day in case of business emergency, holiday, or non-business days. (7-1-21)

06. **Department Marketed Applications.**

   a. Individual applications for special controlled hunts shall be made on a form prescribed by the Department or submitted electronically at any Department Office or license vendor, via Internet or telephone. (7-1-21)

   b. Applications received at the Licenses Section, Headquarters Office, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, PO Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707-0025, or submitted electronically, by no later than 11:59 pm Mountain time on May 31 of the current calendar year will be eligible for the first drawing held in June; and those received after May 31 and by no later than 11:59 pm Mountain time, August 10, of the current calendar year for the second drawing. Applications received after August 10 will be eligible for the drawing held in June of the following year. (7-1-21)

   c. All applications entered into the first drawing are not eligible for and will not be entered into the second drawing. (7-1-21)

   d. Any individual application that is unreadable, has multiple or no species box checked, is
incomplete, or lacks the information or fee will be declared void and will not be entered in the drawing. All applications will be considered final; they may not be resubmitted after correction.

(7-1-21)

e. Should the winner be ineligible, deceased, or incapacitated to hunt, the first alternate drawn will be declared the winner. Should the first alternate be ineligible, deceased or incapacitated to hunt, the second alternate drawn will be declared the winner. Should the second alternate be ineligible, deceased or incapacitated to hunt, that special controlled hunt tag will be null and void and will not be issued to any person.

(7-1-21)

262. (RESERVED)

263. REFUNDS OF CONTROLLED HUNT FEES.

01. Refunds.

(7-1-21)

a. Controlled hunt tag fees will be refunded to unsuccessful or ineligible applicants for moose, sheep, mountain goat, and grizzly bear. Unsuccessful applicants may donate all or a portion of refunded tag fees to Citizens Against Poaching by checking the appropriate box on the application. One dollar ($1) of the non-refundable application fee will go to Citizens Against Poaching unless the applicant instructs otherwise.

(7-1-21)

b. Fees for hunting licenses will not be refunded to unsuccessful or ineligible controlled applicants.

(7-1-21)

c. Fees for deer or elk tags purchased prior to the drawing will not be refunded to unsuccessful or ineligible applicants.

(7-1-21)

d. Overpayment of fees of more than five dollars ($5) will be refunded. Overpayment of five dollars ($5) or less will NOT be refunded and will be retained by the Department.

(7-1-21)

e. Controlled hunt application fees are nonrefundable.

(7-1-21)

f. Fees for resident and nonresident adult controlled hunt tags subsequently designated to a minor child or grandchild are not refundable.

(7-1-21)

g. Fees for special controlled hunt application, tag and related hunting license are not refundable.

(7-1-21)

264. -- 269. (RESERVED)

270. MANDATORY HUNTER ORIENTATION.

Anyone drawing a controlled archery-only hunt tag with mandatory hunter orientation as denoted in the season proclamation will receive orientation information that includes hunt boundaries, legal restrictions, and hunter ethics. Tag holders must sign and return an affidavit that they have reviewed and understand the orientation to receive a Certificate of Completion, which must be carried by the hunter during the hunt. Holders of “Certificates of Completion” from previous hunts do not have to repeat this orientation and will be provided with updated Certificates of Completion to participate in the hunt.

(7-1-21)

271. -- 299. (RESERVED)

300. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS THAT LEGALLY MAY BE TAKEN.

01. Big Game Animals of Either Sex. Big game animals of either sex may be taken, except the following may not be taken:

(7-1-21)


(7-1-21)

b. Black Bear. Females accompanied by young.

(7-1-21)
c. Mountain Lion. Spotted young or females accompanied by young. (7-1-21)T

d. Grizzly Bear. Adult grizzly bears accompanied by young, or young accompanied by adult grizzly bear(s). (7-1-21)T

02. **Seasons Restricted to Antlered or Male Animals Only.**  

a. Deer. Only deer with at least one (1) antler longer than three (3) inches may be taken in any season open for antlered deer only. (7-1-21)T

b. Two-point deer. Only deer with not more than two (2) points on one (1) antler, not including brow point, and at least one (1) antler longer than three (3) inches may be taken in any season open for two-point deer only. (7-1-21)T

c. Three-point deer. Only deer having at least one (1) antler with three (3) or more points not counting the brow point or tine may be taken in any season open for three-point or larger deer only. (7-1-21)T

d. Four-point deer. Only deer having at least one (1) antler with four (4) or more points, not including the brow point or tine, may be taken in any season open for four-point or larger deer only. (7-1-21)T

e. Elk. Only elk with at least one (1) antler longer than six (6) inches may be taken in any season which is open for antlered elk only. (7-1-21)T

f. Spike elk. Only elk with no branching on either antler and at least one (1) antler longer than six (6) inches may be taken in any season which is open for spike elk only. A branch is an antler projection that is at least one (1) inch long and longer than the width of the projection. (7-1-21)T

g. Brow-tined elk. Any elk having an antler or antlers with a visible point on the lower half of either main beam that is greater than or equal to four (4) inches long. (7-1-21)T

h. Moose. Only moose with at least one (1) antler longer than six (6) inches may be taken in any season open for antlered moose only. (7-1-21)T

03. **Seasons Restricted to Antlerless or Female Animals Only.**  

a. Deer. Only deer without antlers or with antlers shorter than three (3) inches may be taken in any season open for antlerless deer only. (7-1-21)T

b. Elk. Only elk without antlers or with antlers shorter than six (6) inches may be taken in any season open for antlerless elk only. (7-1-21)T

c. Pronghorn. Only pronghorn without a black “cheek patch” or horns less than three (3) inches long may be taken during doe and fawn only pronghorn seasons. (7-1-21)T

d. Bighorn sheep. Only bighorn sheep with horns between six (6) inches and twelve (12) inches in length may be taken in any season which is open for bighorn ewes only. (7-1-21)T

e. Moose. Only moose without antlers or with antlers less than six (6) inches long may be taken in any season which is open for antlerless moose only. (7-1-21)T

301. -- 319. (RESERVED)

320. **TAG VALIDATION AND ATTACHMENT.**

01. **Tag.** Immediately after any deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, mountain lion, black bear, grizzly bear, or gray wolf is killed, the appropriate big game animal tag must be validated and securely attached to the animal. (7-1-21)T
a. Validation. Cut out and completely remove only the two (2) triangles indicating the date and month of kill. (7-1-21)

b. Attachment of Tag. (7-1-21)

i. Deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, mountain goat, black bear, and bighorn sheep: to the largest portion of the edible meat to be retained by the hunter or any person transporting for the hunter. The tag must remain attached during transit to a place of processing and remain attached until the meat is processed. The validated tag must accompany the processed meat to the place of final storage or final consumption. (7-1-21)

ii. Mountain lion, black bear, grizzly bear, and gray wolf: To the hide until the mandatory check is complied with. (7-1-21)

321. – 349. (RESERVED)

350. IDENTIFICATION OF SEX, SIZE, AND/OR SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.

01. Evidence of Sex. Evidence of sex must be left naturally attached to the carcass of any big game animal until the carcass reaches the final place of storage or consumption or a commercial meat processing facility as follows: (7-1-21)

a. In antlered or male only seasons, the evidence of sex requirement is met when the head, horns, or antlers are left naturally attached to the whole carcass or to a front quarter. If the head, horns, or antlers are removed, some other external evidence of sex (either scrotum, penis or testicles) must be left naturally attached to the carcass or to a hind quarter; and the horns or antlers must accompany the carcass while in transit. (7-1-21)

b. In spike elk or two-point (2) deer only seasons, the evidence of sex requirement is met when the head with both complete unaltered antlers are left naturally attached to the whole carcass or to a front quarter. If the head or antlers are removed, some other external evidence of sex (either scrotum, penis or testicles) must be left naturally attached to the carcass or to a hind quarter; and both complete unaltered antlers naturally attached to each other must accompany the carcass while in transit. (7-1-21)

c. In antlerless, doe/fawn or female only seasons, if the head is removed from female elk, moose, deer, pronghorn, or bighorn sheep, some other external evidence of sex (either udder or the vulva) must be left naturally attached to the carcass or to a hind quarter. (7-1-21)

d. The entire head of antlerless male elk, moose, deer, or pronghorn, or a male lamb bighorn sheep killed during an antlerless, female, doe/fawn or ewe only season, may be left naturally attached to the carcass or to a front quarter. If the head is removed, some other external evidence of sex (either scrotum, penis, or testicles for males or udder or vulva for females) must be left naturally attached to the carcass or to a hind quarter. (7-1-21)

e. For black bear, grizzly bear, mountain lion, and gray wolf, external evidence of sex (either scrotum, penis or testicles for males, or udder or vulva for females) must be left naturally attached to the hide until the mandatory check has been complied with. (11-22-21)

02. Evidence of Species. In seasons restricted to mule deer only or white-tailed deer only, if the head is removed, the fully-haired tail must be left naturally attached to the carcass. (7-1-21)

03. Other. Proclamation or emergency hunt order may designate seasons and areas in which portions of a carcass must be presented to the Department within a specified timeframe; or waive an evidence requirement of this section. (11-22-21)

351. – 403. (RESERVED)

404. SPECIAL WEAPON SEASONS.
The Commission may designate by proclamation Special Weapon seasons, such as Archery Only, Muzzleloader Only, or Short-range Weapons Only, in which restrictions to method of take apply in addition to those set forth in Section 410.

405. SPECIAL WEAPON SEASONS – ARCHERY.

01. Archery Only Season. During a season designated by Commission proclamation as an Archery Only season, it is unlawful to take a big game animal:

a. With any firearm, crossbow, or implement other than a longbow, compound bow, or recurve bow.

b. With any device attached to the bow that holds a bow at partial or full draw.

c. With any bow or crossbow equipped with magnifying sights.

02. Traditional Archery Only Season. During a season identified by Commission proclamation as Traditional Archery Only, it is unlawful to take any big game animal:

a. With any firearm, crossbow, or implement other than a longbow or recurve bow.

b. With an arrow not constructed of wood or fletched with non-natural material.

c. With any bow equipped with sights.

406. SPECIAL WEAPON SEASONS – MUZZLELOADER.

01. Muzzleloader Only Season. During a season designated by Commission proclamation as a Muzzleloader Only season, it is unlawful to take a big game animal with any firearm, including muzzleloading pistols, or implement other than a muzzleloading rifle or musket that complies with each of the following:

a. Is at least forty-five (.45) caliber for deer, pronghorn, mountain lion, or gray wolf, or at least fifty (.50) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat or black bear.

b. Is capable of being loaded only from the muzzle.

c. Is equipped only with open or peep sights.

d. Is loaded only with loose black powder including synthetic black powder.

e. Is equipped with no more than two (2) barrels.

f. Is loaded only with a projectile with a diameter within one hundredth (.01) of an inch of the bore diameter.

g. Is equipped only with flint, musket cap, or percussion cap. 209 primers are prohibited.

h. Is equipped with an exposed ignition system.

i. Is loaded only with a patched round ball or conical non-jacketed projectile comprised wholly of lead or lead alloy.

02. Pelletized Powder. It is unlawful to use pelletized powder in a Muzzleloader Only season.

03. Sabot. It is unlawful to use a sabot in a Muzzleloader Only season.
407. SPECIAL WEAPON SEASONS – SHORT-RANGE WEAPONS.

01. Short-range Weapon Only Season. During a season designated by Commission proclamation as a Short-Range Weapon Only season, it is unlawful to use any weapon other than the following:

   a. Any shotgun using any slug or double-aught (#00) or larger buckshot. (7-1-21)

   b. Any muzzleloader that is at least forty-five (0.45) caliber for deer, pronghorn, mountain lion, or gray wolf, or at least fifty (0.50) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or black bear. (7-1-21)

   c. Any bow having a peak draw weight of not less than forty (40) pounds up to or at a draw of twenty-eight (28) inches. (7-1-21)

   d. Any crossbow having a peak draw weight of not less than one hundred fifty (150) pounds. (7-1-21)

   e. Any handgun using straight wall centerfire cartridges not originally developed for rifles. (7-1-21)

   f. Any airgun using pre-charged pneumatic power to propel a projectile (excluding shot and arrows) with unignited compressed air or gas and projectiles at least thirty-five (0.35) caliber for deer and pronghorn antelope or at least forty-five (0.45) caliber for elk and moose. (7-1-21)

408. UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKE – GENERAL.

No person may take big game animals as set forth in this section. (7-1-21)

01. Firearms. (7-1-21)

   a. With any firearm that, in combination with a scope, sling, and/or any other attachments, weighs more than sixteen (16) pounds. (7-1-21)

   b. With any shotgun using any shot smaller than double-aught (#00) buck. (7-1-21)

   c. With any rimfire rifle, rimfire handgun or any muzzleloading handgun, except for mountain lion and trapped gray wolf. (7-1-21)

   d. With a fully automatic firearm. (7-1-21)

   e. With any electronic device attached to, or incorporated in, the firearm (including handguns and shotguns) or scope; except scopes containing battery powered or tritium lighted reticles are allowed. (7-1-21)

02. Bows, Crossbows, Arrows, Bolts, Airguns, Chemicals or Explosives. (7-1-21)

   a. With arrows or bolts having broadheads measuring less than seven-eighths (7/8) inch in width and having a primary cutting edge less than fifteenth-thousandths (0.015) inch thick. (7-1-21)

   b. With any bow having a peak draw weight of less than forty (40) pounds up to or at a draw of twenty-eight (28) inches, or any crossbow having a peak draw weight of less than one hundred-fifty (150) pounds. (7-1-21)

   c. With any chemicals or explosives attached to the arrow or bolt. (7-1-21)

   d. With arrows or bolts having expanding broadheads. (7-1-21)

   e. With arrows or bolts having barbed broadheads. A barbed broadhead is a broadhead which has any portion of the rear edge of the broadhead forming an angle less than ninety (90) degrees with the shaft or ferrule.
f. With any electronic or tritium-powered device attached to, or incorporated into, an arrow, bolt, crossbow, or bow. (7-1-21)
f.

g. With any bow capable of shooting more than one (1) arrow at a time. (7-1-21)

h. With any compound bow with more than eighty-five percent (85%) let-off. (7-1-21)
i. With an arrow and broadhead, or bolt and broadhead, with a combined total weight of less than three hundred (300) grains. (7-1-21)
j. With an arrow less than twenty-four (24) inches or a crossbow bolt less than twelve (12) inches in length from the broadhead to the nock inclusive. (7-1-21)
k. With an arrow wherein the broadhead does not precede the shaft and nock. (7-1-21)
l. With any crossbow pistol. (7-1-21)
m. With any airgun using pre-charged pneumactic power to propel a projectile (excluding shot and arrows) with unignited compressed air or gas and projectiles less than thirty-five (0.35) caliber for deer, pronghorn antelope, mountain lion, or gray wolf, or less than forty-five (0.45) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or black or grizzly bear. (7-1-21)

03. Muzzleloaders.
a. With a muzzleloading rifle or musket which is less than forty-five (.45) caliber for deer, pronghorn, mountain lion, or gray wolf, or which is less than fifty (.50) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or black bear. (7-1-21)
b. With any electronic device attached to, or incorporated in, the muzzleloader. (7-1-21)

04. Other.
a. With electronic calls except for the hunting of mountain lions, black bears, and wolves in seasons set by proclamation. (7-1-21)
b. With any bait for hunting, including grain, salt in any form (liquid or solid), or any other substance (not to include synthetic liquid scent) to constitute an attraction or enticement, except in accordance with IDAPA 13.01.17, “Rules Governing the Use of Bait for Hunting Big Game Animals.” (7-1-21)
c. With dogs, except for mountain lion or black bear in accordance with IDAPA 13.01.15, “Rules Governing the Use of Dogs.” (7-1-21)
d. With any net, snare, trap, chemical, deadfall or device other than legal firearm, archery or muzzleloader equipment or airgun; except in accordance with IDAPA 13.01.16, “Rules Governing Trapping of Wildlife and Taking of Furbearing Animals.” (7-1-21)
e. Within an enclosure designed to prevent ingress or egress of big game animals, including fenced facilities defined as Domestic Cervidae Farms under Section 25-3501, Idaho Code, unless authorized by the director. This rule does not apply to domestic cervids. (7-1-21)
f. With radio telemetry or other electronic tracking devices used as an aid to locate big game animals. This rule does not affect the use of telemetry equipment on hounds or other sporting dogs. (7-1-21)

411. MOTORIZED HUNTING RULE.
The use of motorized vehicles by hunters as an aid to hunting big game is restricted in certain areas. This use
restriction is in addition to all federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders; including, but not limited to, any motorized vehicle licensing, registration, and permitting requirements and traffic laws. Hunters must comply with all motorized vehicle limits or prohibitions instituted by the landowner or land manager. Also, this use restriction rule is not an exception from, and is in addition to, the statutory prohibition against hunting from or by the use of any motorized vehicle set forth in Section 36-1101(b)(1), Idaho Code.

01. **Use Restriction.** In designated units from August 30 through December 31, hunters may only use motorized vehicles on established roadways that are open to motorized traffic and capable of travel by full-sized automobiles.

02. **Exceptions.** This use restriction rule does not apply to the following permissible motorized vehicle uses by hunters off of an established roadway:

a. Holders of a valid Disabled Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit may use a motorized vehicle as allowed by the land owner or manager.

b. Hunters may use a motorized vehicle to retrieve downed game if such travel is allowed by the land owner or manager.

c. Hunters may use a motorized vehicle to pack camping equipment in or out if such travel is allowed by the land owner or manager; however, hunters may not hunt while packing camping equipment.

d. Private landowners on their private land, their authorized agents, and persons with written landowner permission are excepted from the Motorized Hunting Rule use restriction.

412. **DESIGNATED MOTORIZED HUNTING RULE UNITS.**
The motorized hunting use restriction applies to units 29, 30, 30A, 32, 32A, 36A, 37, 37A, 45, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 52A, 53, 56, 58, 59, 59A, 66, 66A, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, and 78.

413. **EXCEPTIONS FOR METHODS OF TAKE AND SHOOTING HOURS FOR GRAY WOLF.**

01. **Exceptions for Dispatch of Trapped Wolf.** A lawfully trapped gray wolf may be dispatched at any hour with any rifle or handgun in exception to IDAPA 13.01.08.400 and 410, “Rules Governing Taking of Big Game Animals,” without additional permit from the Director.

02. **Exceptions for Methods of Take.** The Commission may set seasons by proclamation for units in which the hunting or trapping of gray wolf is exempt from method of take restrictions for game animals contained in Section 36-1101, Idaho Code, or Sections 410 or 412 of these rules, where such restrictions do not apply to other wild canines.

03. **Permits Involving Waiver of Official Shooting Hours.** Where the Commission sets seasons pursuant to Section 413.02 of these rules, no person may hunt gray wolf by use of artificial light or otherwise outside of official shooting hours set by IDAPA 13.01.07.400, Rules Governing Taking of Wildlife, unless:

a. On public land, that person has a valid permit from the Director and complies with any permit conditions. The Director may deny a person’s application for such permit, limit the time or area for hunting, or impose other conditions for good cause, such as public safety or protection of other wildlife or property; or

b. On private land, that person is the owner of that land or has written authorization from the landowner or landowner’s agent.

414. -- 418. **(RESERVED)**

419. **RETURN OF TAGS BY UNSUCCESSFUL HUNTERS.**
Hunters who are not successful in killing a bighorn sheep, mountain goat, grizzly bear, or moose shall present or mail their unused tags to a Department office within ten (10) days after the close of the season for which the tag was valid. Canceled tags will be returned to the hunter upon request.
420. MANDATORY CHECK AND REPORT REQUIREMENTS.
Any person killing black bear, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, gray wolf, or mountain lion in a unit with no quota, must, within ten (10) days of the date of kill, or any person killing mountain lion in a unit with a quota, or a grizzly bear, must, within five (5) days of the date of kill, comply with the mandatory check and report requirements by:

01. Harvest Report. Completing the relevant harvest report (big game mortality report or other report form as required) for the species taken.

02. Presentation of Animal Parts. Presenting the following animal parts so that Department personnel may collect biological data and mark the animal parts:
   a. Black Bear: Skull and portion of the hide with evidence of sex attached to be presented to a conservation officer, regional office or official check point for removal and retention of premolar tooth and to have the hide marked.
   b. Grizzly Bear: Skull and portion of the hide with evidence of sex attached to be presented to a conservation officer or regional office for removal and retention of a premolar tooth, and to have the hide marked.
   c. Mountain Lion: Skull and portion of the hide with evidence of sex attached to be presented to a conservation officer or regional office to have the hide marked.
   d. Gray Wolf: Skull and portion of the hide with evidence of sex attached to be presented to a conservation officer or regional office for removal and retention of a premolar tooth, and to have the hide marked.
   e. Moose: Antlers from antlered animals to be presented to a conservation officer or regional office.
   f. Bighorn Sheep: Ram horns to be presented to a regional office for marking, ewe horns to be presented to a regional office.
   g. Mountain Goat: Horns to be presented to a conservation officer or regional office.

03. Possession of Raw Pelts of Black Bear, Grizzly Bear, Mountain Lion, and Gray Wolf. No person may have in possession, except during the respective time period after lawful harvest allowed for mandatory check in Section 420 of these rules (five (5) or ten (10) days, depending on species), any raw black bear, mountain lion, grizzly bear, or gray wolf pelt without an official state export tag attached, unless that person possesses a fur buyer or taxidermist license or appropriate import documentation.

04. Authorized Representative. A person may authorize another person to comply with the above requirements if that person complies with reporting requirements and possesses enough information to accurately complete the necessary form.

421. MANDATORY PRONGHORN, DEER, AND ELK REPORT REQUIREMENTS.

01. Mandatory Report. Any hunter that obtains a pronghorn, deer, or elk tag must submit to the Department an accurately completed Mandatory Report for the respective species on a form prescribed by the Department, within ten (10) days of killing such animal, or if the hunter does not kill such animal, within ten (10) days of the closing date of the appropriate season.

02. Failure to Report. Failure to submit the pronghorn, deer, or elk Mandatory Report as required in this section will render the person ineligible to obtain any license until a late Mandatory Report permit is submitted with the Department.
422. MANDATORY TELEPHONE REPORT.
In addition to other check and reporting requirements, any hunter killing a grizzly bear must report the harvest within twenty-four (24) hours by calling the Grizzly Bear Reporting Number, a toll-free telephone number published in the grizzly bear season and rules brochure available at Department offices and on the Department website. (7-1-21)

423. -- 499. (RESERVED)

500. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING OF BIG GAME ANIMALS.
In addition to the closures specified in IDAPA 13.01.07.300, “Rules Governing Taking of Wildlife.”

01. Mountain Lions and Gray Wolves. No person may hunt or pursue mountain lion or gray wolf within one-half (1/2) mile of any active Department big game feeding site. (7-1-21)

02. Black Bear, Grizzly Bear, and Gray Wolves. No person may hunt or pursue black bear, grizzly bear, or gray wolf within two hundred (200) yards of the perimeter of any designated dump ground or sanitary landfill. (7-1-21)

501. -- 799. (RESERVED)

800. EMERGENCY DEPREDATION HUNTS.

01. Eligibility.
   a. Only Idaho residents with a valid Idaho hunting or combination license are eligible to apply to participate in emergency depredation hunts. (7-1-21)
   b. Persons submitting applications for emergency depredation hunts are eligible to apply for controlled hunts or may hunt in the general season. (7-1-21)

02. Applications.
   a. A person may submit no more than (1) application per year for each species--deer, elk, pronghorn, black bear, or gray wolf. (7-1-21)
   b. An individual or a group may apply. A group is defined as two (2) hunters applying for the same depredation hunt on the same application. If an individual submits application for more than one (1) species, he does not have to apply in the same group or area for each application. (7-1-21)
   c. Any form not properly completed will be ineligible for selection. (7-1-21)
   d. Any holder of an antlerless or doe/fawn, or black bear controlled hunt tag will be considered an applicant for any depredation hunt for that species which is:
      i. Held prior to the antlerless or doe/fawn, or black bear controlled hunt; and (7-1-21)
      ii. Is in the same area as the depredation. (7-1-21)
   e. Any holder of an antlerless or doe/fawn, or black bear controlled hunt tag may also apply for a depredation hunt in any region. (7-1-21)
   f. A list of depredation hunt applications received will be maintained for the time period July 1 to June 30. Applications are valid only for the time period for which they are submitted. (7-1-21)

03. Selection of Participants. The Department will place all applications (individual or group) for each depredation hunt received by June 30 in random order. All applications received after June 30 will be placed at the end of the list in the order received, except that military personnel returning from active duty will be given priority. The Department will select participants for a hunt in the order in which applicants appear on the list, except
for those hunts that precede, or at the discretion of the Regional Supervisor, follow a controlled hunt for doe/fawn or antlerless animals or black bear. If a depredation hunt is scheduled before or, at the discretion of the Regional Supervisor, after a doe/fawn or antlerless hunt or black bear hunt in the same unit, the holders of the doe/fawn or antlerless tags or black bear tag will be given the option to hunt in the depredation hunt. If no doe/fawn or antlerless or black bear hunts are scheduled in that unit, or if some depredation hunt tags are not taken by controlled hunt hunters, participants will be selected from applicants for that depredation hunt. If a group application is selected, both hunters will be offered depredation hunt tags.

801. -- 999. (RESERVED)
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